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Aboriginal Peoples: Fact Sheets

Inuit:
Fact Sheet for Inuit Nunangat

by Shirley Li and Kristina Smith
Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division

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.. not available for a specific reference period
... not applicable
0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
0^p value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
^{p} preliminary
^{r} revised
x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
^{E} use with caution
F too unreliable to be published
* significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

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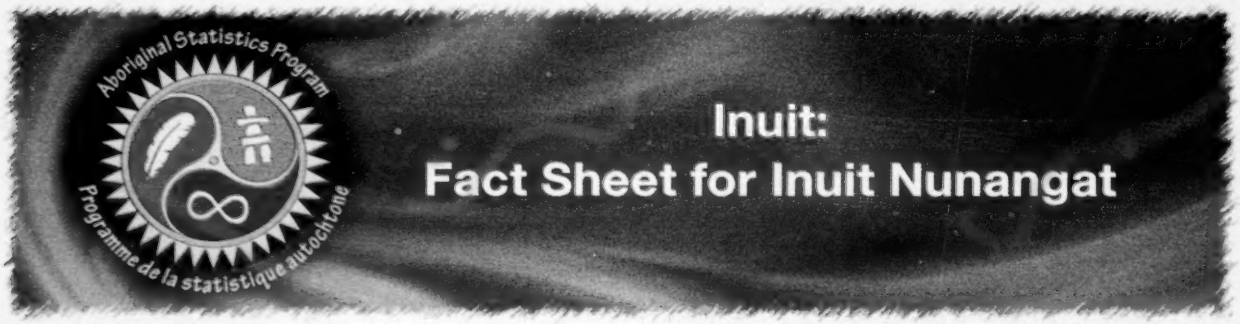


Inuit: Fact Sheet for Inuit Nunangat

Aboriginal people account for the majority of the population in Inuit Nunangat

- Numbering 44,995, 3% of the Aboriginal identity population in Canada lived in Inuit Nunangat[1] in 2011. They made up 86% of the total population in the region.

- Inuit Nunangat was home to 43,455 Inuit, 1,075 First Nations people, and 385 Métis,[2] with the rest reporting other[3] Aboriginal identities (25) or more than one Aboriginal identity (55). From 2006 to 2011, the Inuit population in Inuit Nunangat increased by 10%.[4]

Aboriginal population younger than non-Aboriginal

- Just over half (56%) of Aboriginal people in Inuit Nunangat were under the age of 25, compared with 18% of the non-Aboriginal population. Over half of Inuit (56%) and 47% of First Nations people were in this age group.

- In 2011, the median age of Inuit was 21.7, while that of First Nations people was 27.1. The Aboriginal population was younger than the non-Aboriginal population, whose median age was 38.7.

Two-thirds of Inuit children live with both parents

- In Inuit Nunangat, 64% of Inuit children aged 14 and younger lived in a family with both their parents in 2011, as did 62% of First Nations children. The corresponding percentage for non-Aboriginal children was 85%.

- One-quarter of Inuit children aged 14 and younger (25%), and under one-third of First Nations children (29%), lived in a lone-parent family, rates that were higher than that for their non-Aboriginal peers (12%).

About the data sources

The 2011 National Household Survey (NHS) and the 2012 Aboriginal Peoples Survey (APS) are the main data sources for this fact sheet. The 2011 NHS collected social and economic data about the Canadian population. The 2012 APS was a national survey of First Nations people **living off reserve**, Métis, and Inuit aged 6 and older. The data are for the **Aboriginal identity population**, which refers to people who reported identifying with at least one Aboriginal group, that is, First Nations, Métis or Inuit, and/or those who reported being a Treaty Indian or a Registered Indian as defined by the *Indian Act* of Canada, and/or those who reported they were members of an Indian band or First Nation. It was possible to report both single and multiple responses to the Aboriginal identity questions on the NHS and the APS. The NHS data in this fact sheet are based on single responses only. The APS data represent a combination of the single and multiple Aboriginal identity populations. Nearly all off-reserve First Nations, Métis, and Inuit respondents reported a single identity.

1. Inuit Nunangat is the homeland of Inuit of Canada. It is comprised of four Inuit regions: Nunatsiavut (northern coastal Labrador), Nunavik (northern Quebec), the territory of Nunavut and the Inuvialuit region (northern Northwest Territories). These regions collectively encompass the area traditionally occupied by Inuit in Canada.
2. While the National Household Survey (NHS) count for the Métis population in Inuit Nunangat is provided here, data for other characteristics are not included because of the small number living in the region.
3. This includes people who reported having Registered Indian status and/or being members of an Indian band or First Nation without reporting an Aboriginal identity.
4. A number of factors should be taken into account when comparing data on Aboriginal people over time. Please refer to the *Aboriginal Peoples Reference Guide, National Household Survey, 2011*, Catalogue no. 99-011-X2011006 and the *Aboriginal Peoples Technical Report*, Catalogue no. 99-011-X.

Table 1
Percentage distribution of children aged 14 and under by living arrangement, by selected Aboriginal identity group,[1] Inuit Nunangat, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
	percent			
Children of both parents[2]	63.9	62.1	63.8	85.1
Stepchildren	5.7	5.2	5.7	2.5
Children of lone parent	25.1	29.3	25.1	12.4
Grandchildren in skip-generation family	2.3	3.4	2.3	0.0
Foster children	1.9	0.0	2.0	0.0
Children living with other relatives[3]	1.2	3.4	1.2	0.0

1. Data for Métis are included in the total Aboriginal identity population but are not shown separately because of the small number of Métis living in Inuit Nunangat.
2. Includes children in a two-parent family where there may also be stepsiblings or half-siblings present. Also includes children in a two-parent family for whom it cannot be determined if they are stepchildren.
3. Non-relatives may be present. Excludes foster children.
Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

Inuit most likely to live in crowded homes and homes requiring major repairs

- In 2011, 39% of Inuit in Inuit Nunangat lived in crowded homes, that is, with more than one person per room. Among First Nations, the percentage was 15%. The comparable figure for the non-Aboriginal population was 4%.
- Over one-third of Inuit (36%) and one in five First Nations people (23%) lived in homes in need of major repairs. The corresponding percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 16%.

Table 2
Percentages living in crowded homes and homes in need of major repairs, by selected Aboriginal identity group,[1] Inuit Nunangat, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
	percent			
Crowding[2]	37.9	14.8	38.7	4.2
Home in need of major[3] repairs	35.1	22.7	35.6	15.7

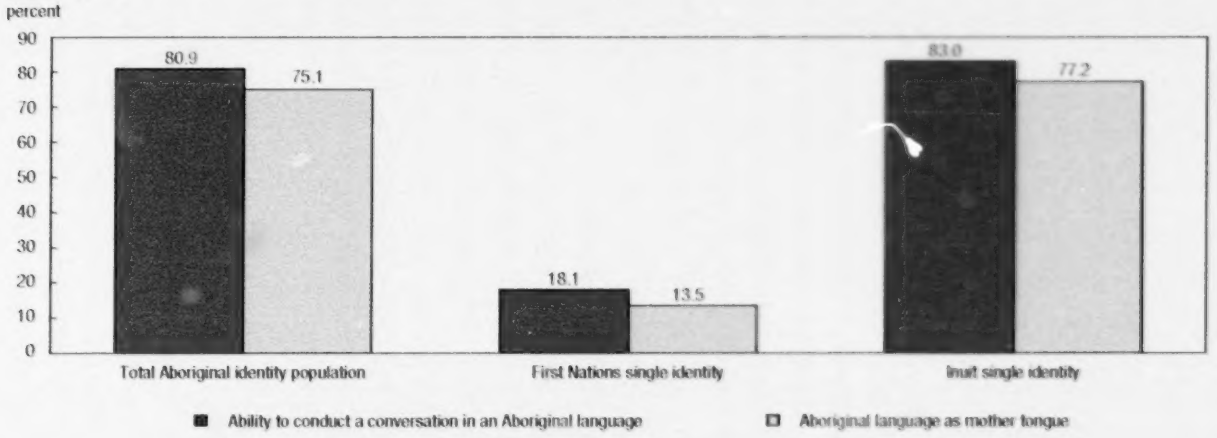
1. Data for Métis are included in the total Aboriginal identity population but are not shown separately because of the small number of Métis living in Inuit Nunangat.
2. More than one person per room.
3. For example, dwellings with defective plumbing or electrical wiring and dwellings needing structural repairs to walls, floors or ceilings.
Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

Majority of Inuit speak an Aboriginal language

- In Inuit Nunangat, 83% of Inuit reported the ability to conduct a conversation in an Aboriginal language, a rate higher than among First Nations people (18%). The Aboriginal languages most commonly spoken by Inuit were Inuktitut, Inuvialuktun and Inuinnaqtun. Among First Nations people, they were Gwich'in and Cree languages.[5]
- The number who reported being able to converse in an Aboriginal language exceeded the number who reported an Aboriginal mother tongue, which suggests acquisition of an Aboriginal language as a second language.
- Based on results of the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 94% of Inuit aged 6 and older in Inuit Nunangat reported that speaking and understanding an Aboriginal language was important to them. Outside Inuit Nunangat, the rate dropped to 61%.

5. Cree languages include the responses Swampy Cree, Plains Cree, Woods Cree or Cree otherwise not specified.

Chart 1
Ability to converse in an Aboriginal language and Aboriginal language as mother tongue, by selected Aboriginal identity group,[1] Inuit Nunangat, 2011



1. Data for Métis are included in the total Aboriginal identity population but are not shown separately because of the small number of Métis living in Inuit Nunangat.
Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

Three in ten Inuit have postsecondary qualifications

- In 2011, 30% of Aboriginal people aged 25 to 64 in Inuit Nunangat had a certificate, diploma or degree from a trade school, college or university: 28% of Inuit and 58% of First Nations people. The comparable percentage for their non-Aboriginal counterparts was 80%.
- Among those with postsecondary credentials, Inuit and First Nations people were more likely than non-Aboriginal graduates to have completed programs below the bachelor's level (trades or college programs).
- There was also a difference in the proportion of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people with "no certificate, diploma or degree". In 2011, 58% of Inuit and 24% of First Nations people aged 25 to 64 did not have a certificate, diploma or degree. The corresponding percentage for the non-Aboriginal population was 6%.

Table 3
Highest level of educational attainment of population aged 25 to 64, by selected Aboriginal identity group,[1] Inuit Nunangat, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
		percent		
No certificate, diploma or degree	56.4	24.0	57.8	5.7
High school diploma or equivalent	14.1	18.0	13.9	14.3
Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree	29.5	58.0	28.2	80.1
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma	12.5	15.0	12.3	8.4
College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	13.4	29.0	12.7	21.5
University certificate or diploma below bachelor level[2]	1.4	2.0	1.3	4.1
University certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	2.3	11.0	1.8	46.0

1. Data for Métis are included in the total Aboriginal identity population but are not shown separately because of the small number of Métis living in Inuit Nunangat.
2. Comparisons with other data sources suggest that the category "University certificate or diploma below bachelor level" was overreported in the National Household Survey (NHS). The results for this category should be interpreted with caution. For more information on concepts and data quality, refer to the *NHS reference guides* and *Education Reference Guide* on the Statistics Canada website.
Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

Employment rates and median total income increase with education

- In 2011, the employment rates of Inuit and First Nations people aged 25 to 64 in Inuit Nunangat who did not have a certificate, diploma or degree were 46.0% and 48.0% respectively. Employment rates were higher for those with further education. For example, among those with postsecondary credentials, the employment rate of Inuit was 71.7% while that of First Nations people was 79.3%.

Table 4
Employment rate of population aged 25 to 64, by highest level of educational attainment and selected Aboriginal identity group,[1] Inuit Nunangat, 2011

	Total Aboriginal identity population	First Nations single identity	Inuit single identity	Non-Aboriginal identity population
	employment rate (percent)			
Total	**56.9**	**69.0**	**56.2**	**91.8**
No certificate, diploma or degree	46.1	48.0	46.0	72.6
High school diploma or equivalent	66.9	61.1	66.7	90.5
Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree	72.5	79.3	71.7	93.4

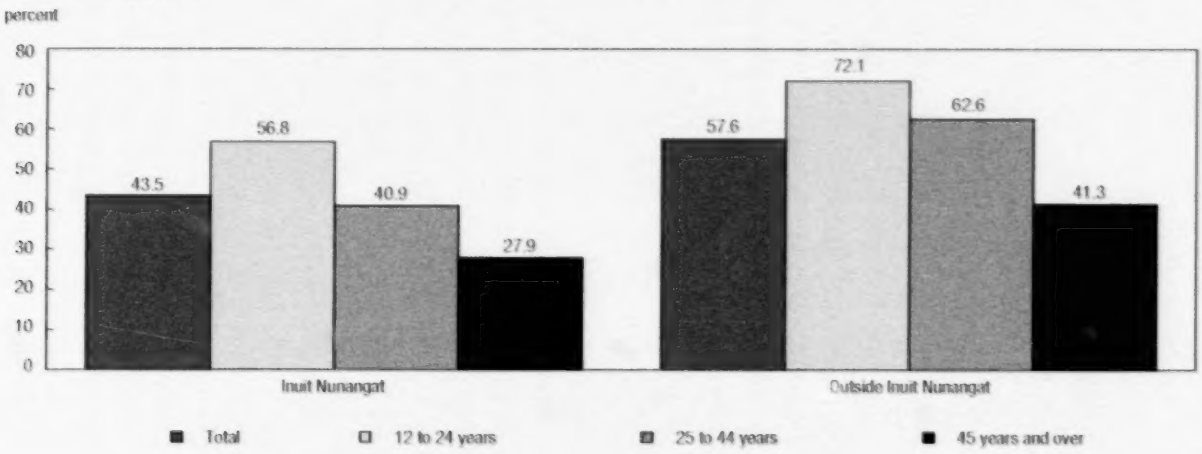
1. Data for Métis are included in the total Aboriginal identity population but are not shown separately because of the small number of Métis living in Inuit Nunangat.
Source: Statistics Canada, National Household Survey, 2011.

- Median total income[6] was also higher for those with higher education levels. Among Inuit aged 25 to 64, median total income (rounded to the nearest $1,000) ranged from $21,000 for those with no certificate, diploma or degree to $45,000 for those with postsecondary credentials. The range for First Nations people was from $24,000 to $68,000.

Under half rated their health as excellent or very good

- Based on results of the Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 44% of Inuit aged 12 and older in Inuit Nunangat rated their health as excellent or very good in 2012. Outside Inuit Nunangat, the rate was 58%.

Chart 2
Excellent or very good self-rated overall health of Inuit population aged 12 and over, by age group, Inuit Nunangat and outside Inuit Nunangat, 2012



Source: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012.

6. Total income includes income from all sources, including employment income, income from government programs, pension income, investment income and any other money income. The calculation includes population with income and without income (with an income of zero).

- Rates of excellent or very good self-reported health varied by age group. The range for the Inuit population in Inuit Nunangat was from 28% for those aged 45 years and over to 57% for those aged 12 to 24 years. Outside Inuit Nunangat, the rates ranged from 41% for those aged 45 years and over to 72% for those aged 12 to 24 years.
- About half of Inuit (48%) aged 18 and older in Inuit Nunangat reported excellent or very good mental health.[7] Outside Inuit Nunangat, the rate was 66%.

Table 5
Excellent or very good self-rated mental health of Inuit population aged 18 and over, by age group, Inuit Nunangat and outside Inuit Nunangat, 2012

	Inuit Nunangat	Outside Inuit Nunangat
	percent	
Total	**47.7**	**65.5**
18 to 24	47.2	58.3
25 to 44	47.1	72.5
45 and over	49.0	61.8

Source: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012.

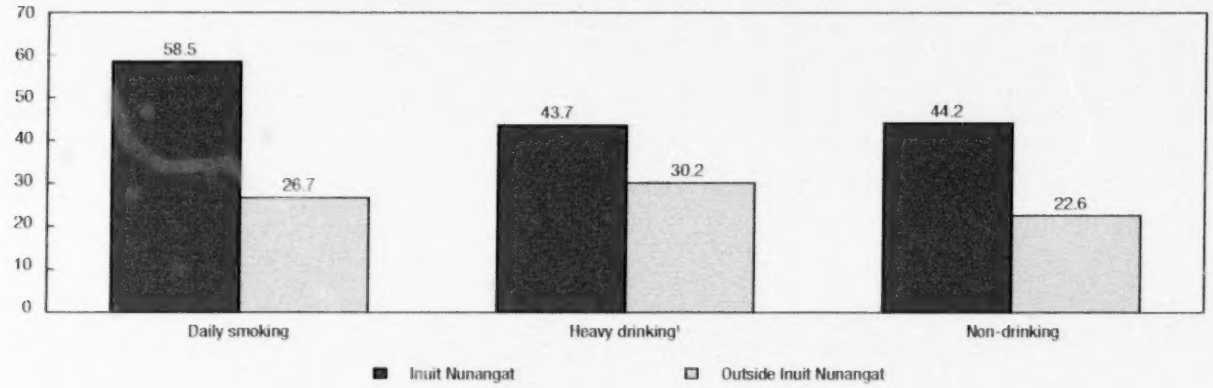
- Over a third of Inuit (36%) aged 12 and older in Inuit Nunangat reported that they had been diagnosed with at least one chronic condition. Outside Inuit Nunangat, the rate reported was 56%.
- Among Inuit in Inuit Nunangat, commonly reported conditions included arthritis excluding fibromyalgia (9%) and high blood pressure (10%). Outside Inuit Nunangat, the rates were 15%[E] and 14%[E] respectively.
- Asthma was commonly reported by Inuit outside Inuit Nunangat (14%) but less so by those in Inuit Nunangat (5%).
- In Inuit Nunangat, 6% of Inuit reported being diagnosed with a learning disability. Outside Inuit Nunangat, the rate was 11%[E].
- While 3% of Inuit in Inuit Nunangat reported being diagnosed with an anxiety disorder, the rate was 10%[E] outside Inuit Nunangat.

Six in ten Inuit smoked daily

- In 2012, 59% of Inuit aged 12 and older in Inuit Nunangat reported that they smoked daily. Smoking rates were lower outside Inuit Nunangat, at 27% for Inuit aged 12 and older.
- Among Inuit in Inuit Nunangat, daily smoking rates ranged from 51% of those aged 12 to 24 to 70% of 25- to 44-year-olds, whereas outside Inuit Nunangat, the rates ranged from 21% for those 45 and older to 31% for 25- to 44-year-olds.

7. Questions on self-rated mental health were only asked of respondents who were providing answers to the survey directly, on their own behalf (i.e., data are not available when questionnaires were completed by proxy interview).

Chart 3
Selected health behaviours of Inuit population aged 12 and over, Inuit Nunangat and outside Inuit Nunangat, 2012



1. Heavy drinking refers to the consumption of five or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the 12 months preceding the survey.
Source: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012.

- For Inuit aged 12 and older in Inuit Nunangat, the rate of heavy drinking (five or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the previous 12 months) was 44%. Outside Inuit Nunangat, the rate was 30%.
- At the same time, 44% of Inuit aged 12 and over in Inuit Nunangat were non-drinkers (consumed no alcohol in the previous 12 months). Outside Inuit Nunangat, the rate was 23%.

Table 6
Selected health behaviours of Inuit population aged 12 and over, by age group, Inuit Nunangat, 2012

	percent
12 to 24	
Daily smoking	51.0
Heavy drinking[1]	39.7
Non-drinking	55.8
25 to 44	
Daily smoking	69.6
Heavy drinking	48.2
Non-drinking	28.7
45 and over	
Daily smoking	53.7
Heavy drinking	39.7
Non-drinking	49.1

1. Heavy drinking refers to the consumption of five or more drinks on one occasion at least once a month in the 12 months preceding the survey.
Source: Statistics Canada, Aboriginal Peoples Survey, 2012.